

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 DAMASC 05271 101532Z

43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 /018 W
----- 072409

R 101459Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO FAS USDA WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9056
AMEMBASSY CAIRO

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 5271

TOFAS 87

CAIRO FOR MERRICK COM

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: SYRIAN WHEAT TRADE MISSION

REF: FASTO 70 (NOTAL)

1. RECENT CABINET SHUFFLE HAS RESULTED IN MINISTER KABALAN MOVING TO MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND AGRARIAN REFORM. AGATT HAS ATTEMPTED TO CONTACT KABALAN TO SEE IF HE PLANS TO PARTICIPATE IN TRADE MISSION FOR DEPARTURE SEPT. 25 PER REFTEL. KABALAN'S OFFICE WOULD NOT GIVE EVEN INFORMAL REPLY, BUT REQUESTED LETTER FROM AGATT RECONFIRMING INVITATION. PLEASE ADVISE IF APPROPRIATE TO SEND LETTER TO KABALAN AS MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE OR WHETHER INVITATION SHOULD BE FOR NEW MINISTER OF SUPPLY. IF THE LATTER, WE CANNOT SAY IF HE IS IN A POSITION TO TRAVEL SO SOON AFTER BECOMING MINISTER.

2. AGATT HAS NOT REPEAT NOT RECEIVED GPW TRIP ITINERARY, BUT HAS RECEIVED SAMPLE OF TEAM BOOKLET FROM FAS. BENSON CALLED AGATT FROM ATHENS AUG 9 AND SAID HE DID NOT PLAN TO COME TO DAMASCUS, BUT WAS PROCEEDING TO CAIRO TO OPEN UP GPW OFFICE THERE. AS AGATT PITCHER GOING ON ANNUAL LEAVE AUGUST 11 RETURNING TO DAMASCUS SEPT. 11, UNLESS BENSON FOLLOWSUP ON INVITATION AFTER RECEIVING GPW/W INSTRUCTIONS, EMBASSY UNCLASSIFIED

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COMMERCIAL OFFICER WILL TAKE ACTION ON INSTRUCTIONS AS

RECEIVED FROM FAS.
MURPHY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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